CLAIMS

1. An apparatus comprising:

    at least one processor;

    a memory coupled to the processor, wherein the memory stores non-object oriented data; and

    a mapping software residing in memory, wherein the processor executes the mapping software to map an object onto the non-objected oriented data located in the memory without requiring any substantial memory in addition to a portion of the memory storing the non-object oriented data.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data is mapped with zero size memory.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the non-object oriented data is stored within a legacy data structure.

4. A method for retrieving non-object oriented data from within an object oriented model, the method comprising the steps of:

    loading memory with non-object oriented data;

    mapping an object oriented model onto a memory space occupied by the non-object oriented data without requiring substantial additional memory space; and

    retrieving a non-object oriented data element from the memory in the object oriented model.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

    inheriting the non-object oriented data from memory.

6.   The method of claim 5 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

creating a class from the non-object oriented data.

7.   The method of claim 6 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

instantiating an instance of the class.

8.   The method of claim 7 wherein the step of instantiating occurs through static casting.

9.   The method of claim 4 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

accessing the non-object oriented data using a object oriented model.

10.   The method of claim 4 wherein the step of retrieving occurs with zero size memory.

11.   The method of claim 4 wherein the non-object oriented data are stored within a legacy data structure.

12.   A method for retrieving non-object oriented data from within an object oriented model, the method comprising the steps of:

loading memory with non-object oriented data;

mapping an object oriented model onto a memory space occupied by the non-object oriented data located in the memory without requiring any substantial memory in addition to a portion of the memory storing the non-object oriented data;

retrieving a non-object oriented data element from the memory in the object oriented model.

13.   The method of claim 12 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

inheriting the non-object oriented data from memory.

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2   14.   The method of claim 13 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

3   creating a class from the non-object oriented data.

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5   15.   The method of claim 14 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

6   instantiating an instance of the class.

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8   16.   The method of claim 15 wherein the step of instantiating occurs through static

9   casting.

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11   17.   The method of claim 12 wherein the step of mapping further comprising:

12   accessing the non-object oriented data using a object oriented model.

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14   18.   The method of claim 12 wherein the step of retrieving occurs with zero size

15   memory.

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17   19.   The method of claim 12 wherein the non-object oriented data are stored within a

18   legacy data structure.

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